(c) whether the question of patent rights in the event of these vaccines being developed has been settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Four research projects have already been sanctioned under the Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP). These four projects are for collaborative research leading to the development of vaccines/immunodiagnostic kits in respect of the following diseases: (i) Hepatitis (Non A-Non B), (ii) Polio, (iii) Typhoid and (iv) Cholera, Presently following diseases have been identified as the priorities for Research and Development under this programme:— (1) Hepatitis viruses (2) Rotavirus (3) Cholera (4) Shigella (5) E. coli (6) Typhoid (7) Pertussis (8) Pneumococcal (9) H. Influenza (10) RSV (11) Canine Rabies and (12) Polio.

(c) Discussions are ongoing between Govt. of USA on the question of allocation of the intellectual property rights.

Family welfare programmes undertaken at the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi

*115. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the family welfare programmes undertaken by the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare at New Delhi; and

(b) what steps would be taken to strengthen the family welfare programmes at the said Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The National Institute of Health and Family Welfare under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare serves as an Apex Technical Institution for the promotion of health and family welfare programmes in the country through Education and Training, Research and Evaluation, Advisory, Consultancy and other specialised services. The Training, Research and Evaluation studies conducted by the Institute concentrate on multi-disciplinary approach of which Family Welfare is an integral part. The activities in the field of Family Welfare include Applied Research, Bio-Medical and Population Genetics and Reproductive Health Care with particular emphasis on Infertility Investigation and Management and Microsurgival Recanalisation Operations.

(b) Keeping in view the twin objectives of Health For All and of NRR of Unity by 2000 AD, a comprehensive Plan of Action was adopted in 1986 for the Institute which covers, among other things, areas relating to Family Welfare programmes as enumerated in part (a) of the reply. This plan provides a charter to the Institute to conduct its activities till 2000 A.D. Depending upon the resources available in the coming years, the Institute would increase its activities in undertaking Training Courses and workshops, Diagnostics Studies, Research and Evaluation Studies, Bio-Medical Research etc.

Officers and junior ranks retired compulsorily from the defence services

*116. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of officers and Junior Ranks, retired compulsorily from the defence services during each of the last three years and how many of them actually got regular employment during each of these three years and what is the percentage in each case;